

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-21 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof, and substitute therefore the following new claims:

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22. (New) A braking and damping device, comprising:
a fluid cylinder having a cylinder wall;
two pistons that are arranged so as to be linearly displaceable in said fluid cylinder;
a piston rod for displacing one of said two pistons in said fluid cylinder; and
an elastically deformable sealing member arranged between said two pistons such that
when damping occurs by said piston rod displacing the one of said two pistons in said fluid cylinder, said elastically deformable sealing member is squeezed between said two pistons and pressed against said cylinder wall.
23. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 22, wherein the one of said two pistons has an open cavity at a front face thereof into which a second of said two pistons is introduced, the second of said two pistons is mounted in said first piston in a freely displaceable manner, the second of said two pistons has an outer casing with an annular projection disposed in front of the one of said two pistons, and said sealing member is arranged between said annular projection and said front face of the one of said two pistons.
24. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 23, wherein said front face of the one of said two pistons is inclined rearwardly from the second of said two pistons towards said cylinder wall of said cylinder.
25. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 23, wherein said cavity of the first of said two pistons has abutments which delimit a displacement path of the second of said two pistons.

N 26. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 23, wherein the second of said two pistons comprises an annular skirt.

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cont N 27. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 26, wherein said skirt comprises a rubber elastic material.

a1 N 28. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 26, wherein said skirt is arranged to skim over said cylinder wall of said cylinder during movement of the second of said two pistons in said cylinder.

com4 N 29. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 23, wherein at least one elastic spacer is provided between a floor of said cavity of the first of said two pistons and a rear side of the second of said two pistons.

N 30. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 29, wherein the second of said two pistons is made of plastic material and said at least one elastic spacer is formed on said rear side of the second of said two pistons.

N 31. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 29, wherein at least one recess is provided in said floor of said cavity for said at least one elastic spacer.

32. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 22, wherein said cylinder wall comprises axially extending grooves positioned so as to permit passage of a pneumatic medium when said two pistons are disposed in a front end position of said cylinder.

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34. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 22, wherein a second of said two pistons comprises a seal which seals with said cylinder wall of said cylinder.

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35. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 22, wherein said sealing member comprises a solid body made of a rubber elastic material that connects said two pistons.

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37. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 22, wherein said elastically deformable sealing member comprises a cylindrical bellows.

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38. (New) The braking and damping device of claim ³⁵37, wherein said cylindrical bellows has a plurality of peripherally extending ribs which lie sealingly against said cylinder wall.

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39. (New) The braking and damping device of claim ³⁵37, wherein said bellows contains hydraulic fluid.

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41. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 22, wherein a compression spring is inserted in between said two pistons.

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40. (New) The braking and damping device of claim ³⁵37, wherein said bellows is anchored with a positive fit in said two pistons.

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36. (New) The braking and damping device of claim ³⁵35, wherein said two pistons have recesses in front faces thereof and said sealing member has projections received in said recesses.

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33. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 32, wherein the pneumatic medium is air.

42. (New) A braking and damping device for a piece of furniture, comprising:
a fluid cylinder having a cylinder wall, said fluid cylinder being mounted on the piece furniture;

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two pistons that are arranged so as to be linearly displaceable in said fluid cylinder;
a piston rod for displacing one of said two pistons in said fluid cylinder, said piston rod being positioned so as to be engageable by a movable part of the piece of furniture; and
an elastically deformable sealing member arranged between said two pistons such that when damping occurs by said piston rod displacing the one of said two pistons in said fluid cylinder, said elastically deformable sealing member is squeezed between said two pistons and pressed against said cylinder wall.

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43. (New) A braking and damping device, comprising:
a fluid cylinder having a cylinder wall;
a first piston and a second piston that are arranged so as to be linearly displaceable in said fluid cylinder along an axis;
a piston rod for displacing said first piston in said fluid cylinder;
wherein said second piston is disposed opposite to said first piston and has a seal sealing said second piston with respect to said cylinder wall;
an elastically deformable friction braking member arranged between said first piston and said second piston such that when damping occurs by said piston rod displacing said first piston in said fluid cylinder, said elastically deformable friction braking member is deformed by being squeezed between said first piston and said second piston and pressed against said cylinder wall so as to cause damping caused by friction in addition to damping caused by fluid damping.

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44. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 43, wherein said cylinder wall comprises axially extending grooves to permit passage of fluid of said fluid cylinder when said first piston and said second piston are disposed in a front end position in said cylinder.

45. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 43, wherein said friction braking member is in the form of a solid body manufactured from a rubber elastic material which connects said first piston and said second piston.

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46. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 45, wherein said first piston and said second piston each have recesses in front faces thereof and said friction braking member has projections received in said recesses.

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47. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 43, wherein said cylinder is structured and arranged to employ a pneumatic medium as an operating fluid.

48. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 43, wherein said cylinder is structured and arranged to employ air as the operating fluid.

49. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 43, wherein said friction braking member is a single body, the material of which is squeezed between said first piston and said second piston.

50. (New) The braking and damping device of claim 43, wherein said first piston and said second piston are made of a rigid material.
